



**MITCHELL E. DANIELS, Jr., Governor**  
**STATE OF INDIANA**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY    JOSEPH E. WAINSCOTT, JR., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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**Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS)**  
**Emergency Operations Center**  
**Sunday, September 14, 2008, 9:45 p.m.**

The IDHS Emergency Operations Center is activated and will remain so overnight to monitor conditions and provide resource support to local county emergency agencies.

**Description of Incident**

The remnants of Hurricane Ike have accelerated rapidly and moved over Indiana. As much as 10 inches of rain has fallen and widespread flooding is being reported across northwest Indiana. Damage from straight line winds has been reported in numerous counties across central and southern parts of the State. Widespread reports of trees and power lines down have also been received.

**Immediate Outlook**

Flash Flood Warnings remain in effect through Monday for most of northwest Indiana. A chance of rain continues tonight for northern Indiana with temperatures in the upper 50's. Scattered rain showers are possible central and south tonight with temperatures in the mid 50's. Gradual clearing will continue across the state with temperatures in the upper 60's.

**Engaged in Response Operations**

- DOC is mobilizing trustee prisoners for sandbagging.
- INDOT: 14
- Indiana National Guard: 40 soldiers
- ISP: 38. Response includes troopers from Lafayette, Indianapolis, Bremen and Ft. Wayne.
- Indiana Task Force 1: 1 (one)

**Summary**

- 2 fatalities in Porter County.
- 1 fatality in Clarke County.
- 1 fatality in Ohio County.
- INDOT has transported 40,000 sandbags and more than 96,000 pounds of sand to Porter, LaPorte and Lake Counties in support of local sandbagging operations.
- IDHS, DNR and ISP have deployed to Lake County.
- Evacuations underway in Lake County.
- An estimated 200,000 customers are out of power statewide.
- The current Red Cross shelter population is 30. Total Reported Shelter Availability is 293.

**Public Health and Medical:**

Margaret Mercy Hospital - Dyer - Nearby levee (Hart Ditch Levee) may be overtopped. IDHS EMS Division monitoring situation. No evacuation reported.

**Flood Control:**

Levee Status:

Failures: Levee near Kennedy Avenue - Hammond (Lake)

Overtopping: Little Calumet Levee - Munster (Lake)

Topped: Hart Ditch Levee - Dyer (Lake)

Dam Status:

Overtopped: Lake George Dam - Hobart (Lake)

Overtopping means water is going over the structure. Topped means water is level with the height of the structure but is not yet pushing water over the top of the structure.

**River, Stream, and Lake Conditions:**

River Conditions

Major Flood Stage: Little Calumet River @ Hammond - Lake County

Moderate Flood Stage: Kankakee River @ Shelby - Lake County

**Shelters:**

Lake County:

Calumet Township Multipurpose Center - Gary

Hammond Civic Center - Hammond

Boys and Girls Club of Lake Station - Lake Station

**Counties Status**

Switzerland County is at a Level One Emergency, which means only emergency and authorized public safety traffic is allowed on local roadways.

These counties have declared a state of emergency:

Jefferson County

Perry County

Porter County

**River Monitoring**

Various rivers and bodies of water are of concern. To monitor as information comes in, go to:

[www.weather.gov/ahps](http://www.weather.gov/ahps)

**Clark County**

The fatality in Clark County was caused by a tree falling on a vehicle.

**Crawford County**

Indiana Department of Transportation is assisting with local debris removal operations in Crawford County.

**Ohio County**

The fatality in Ohio County was caused by a tree falling on a person.

**Lake County**

Indiana Task Force 1 coordinated the deployment of search and rescue assets from the National Guard, DNR and State Police to assist in the evacuation of up to 5,000 people in and around the

Town of Munster in Lake County. DNR water rescue crews and ISP dive teams are on scene in Munster to support local water rescue operations. DNR crews have rescued or evacuated nearly 30 people. DNR is also coordinating the evacuation of the Indiana Dunes State Park. State Police deployed 24 troopers to Lake County to support local support local law enforcement agencies. An ISP helicopter will launch to conduct aerial damage assessment flights once weather conditions improve.

Sandbagging operations were conducted last night and efforts are still underway. Included for sandbagging is Munster, Highland, Dyer, Hammond, Schererville. Evacuations are underway in several areas of Lake County due to flooding. Sandbags: 40,000. Pounds of Sand: 96,000. Sandbagging being handled Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) and local volunteers.

### **LaPorte County**

The NWS has issued a flood warning for urban areas and small streams in LaPorte County until 11:30 p.m.

### **Porter County**

2 fatalities have been reported in Chesterton. Two adults were swept into a culvert while attempting to pull a child from a culvert. The child was pulled to safety. Porter County Emergency Management Agency activated its emergency operations center in response to flooding.

### **St. Joseph County**

St. Joseph County Emergency Operations Center has been activated. Wind gusts of 60 mph have been reported. The NWS has issued a flood warning for urban areas and small streams in St. Joseph and LaPorte counties until 11:30 p.m.

Last Item